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**Committee for Programme and Coordination**
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9 June-3 July 2008
Agenda item 8
**Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-eighth session**

## Draft report

*Rapporteur*: Ms. Stefania **Rosini** (Italy)

**Addendum**

## Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011
***(Item 3(b))***

### Programme 22
### Humanitarian assistance

1. At its 17th meeting, on 23 June 2008, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 22, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/63/6 (Prog.22)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

**Discussion**

3. Appreciation and support were expressed for the work of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

4. Clarification was sought on the distribution of work between the offices in Geneva and New York, the transition from relief to recovery, the cluster approach and the coordination mechanisms between all actors involved in humanitarian assistance, the impact of the current mandate review on the development of the proposed biennial programme plan and how the concept of accountability was reflected in the plan. The view was expressed that extrabudgetary and regular budget activities needed to be well coordinated so as not to counter one another. Concern was expressed about how environmental effects would impact rehabilitation and recovery following natural disasters.

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5. Clarification was also sought on the concept of human security, the basis for the creation of the Human Security Unit and the Unit's activities.

6. The view was expressed that some of the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement needed further improvement and refinement.

7. Concern was expressed about the development and promotion of a common policy on humanitarian issues given that each humanitarian situation was different. The view was expressed that collaboration with national authorities and regional and subregional organizations was crucial for the success of the response to humanitarian crises. The view was also expressed that national ownership in and response to natural disasters was crucial for a well-coordinated international and local response.

8. Regret was expressed that no reference had been made in the document to the participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in humanitarian operations. Concern was expressed about crimes against aid workers, which rendered the situation of civilians worse. Concern was also expressed that, in spite of the importance of the dissemination of information through the Internet, ReliefWeb was only available in English.

9. The view was expressed that emphasis should be placed on General Assembly resolution 46/182, which was the basis for the activities of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and United Nations humanitarian assistance. Concern was expressed that some of the activities undertaken by the Office were beyond its mandates. Concern was also expressed that the cluster approach was included and yet was an issue still under discussion among Member States.

**Conclusions and recommendations**

10. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 22, Humanitarian assistance, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

**Overall orientation**

***Paragraph 22.2***

**In the last sentence, after the word "timely", replace "response" with "humanitarian assistance".**

**At the end of the last sentence, insert the words "in accordance with its respective mandates".**

***Paragraph 22.3***

**In the third sentence, after the words "issue in", replace "the clusters" with "all areas".**

**Subprogramme 1**
**Policy and analysis**

***Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat***

**In expected accomplishment (c), delete the words "and policy responses".**

**Subprogramme 2**
**Coordination of humanitarian action and emergency response**

**In the title of the subprogramme, after the word "humanitarian", replace "action" with "assistance".**

***Expected accomplishment of the Secretariat***

**In expected accomplishment (c), replace the words "strategies for emergency response" with "humanitarian assistance".**

***Indicators of achievement***

**In indicator of achievement (c), after the words "instances where the", add "particular".**

**Strategy**

***Paragraph 22.9***

**After the words "enhance preparedness", delete "in countries at risk for crisis" and replace "identified through" with "based on".**

**At the end of the paragraph, add the words "and resolution 58/114".**

***Paragraph 22.10***

**At the end of the paragraph, add the sentence "The Division will also provide support for the strengthening of the cooperation between assisting and recipient countries".**

***Paragraph 22.11***

**At the beginning of the second sentence, add the words "In this regard,"; after the words "United Nations agencies", add "Member States,"; after the words "non-governmental organizations", add "and relevant authorities"; delete the words "Member States, regional parliamentarians".**

**In the seventh sentence, after the words "dialogue and", replace "monitoring" with "follow-up"; before the word "donors", add "Member States and other".**

**In the thirteenth sentence, replace the words "systematic, structured and well-managed humanitarian response system" with "strengthened, structured and well-managed mechanisms of coordination for humanitarian response".**

*Paragraph 22.12*

**Before the word "agenda", delete "reform"; after the words "humanitarian coordinators include", delete "policy and"; replace the words "leading in-country efforts to apply the principles and the modalities" with "the development"; after the words "cluster approach", add ", while taking into account ongoing intergovernmental discussions"; before the words "ensure that all of its field staff", add "in this regard"; after the words "clusters at the field level", add ", as appropriate"; at the end of the paragraph, replace the words "and the cluster leads, the appropriate and most efficient implementation of the cluster approach" with "to provide more information on its implementation".**

**Subprogramme 3**
**Natural disaster reduction**

**Strategy**

*Paragraph 22.16*

**In the third sentence, replace the words "high-risk countries" with the words "disaster-prone countries".**

**Subprogramme 4**
**Emergency support services**

**Strategy**

*Paragraph 22.18*

**In the first sentence, replace the words "the development and strengthening of the response capacities of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs" with "the development and strengthening of the capacities for coordination of humanitarian response of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs".**

*Paragraph 22.19*

**In the first sentence, replace the words "humanitarian and other partners" with "relevant partners". After the words "intergovernmental and", add "relevant"; after the words "military-military coordination", add "upon the request of Member States"; replace the words "inter alia, through" with "by implementing".**

**Subprogramme 5**
**Humanitarian emergency information and advocacy**

**Strategy**

*Paragraph 22.21*

**In the first sentence, after the words "humanitarian principles", add "as set out in resolutions 46/182 and 58/114".**

*Paragraph 22.23*

**In the last sentence, replace the words "standards and practices for humanitarian information management, ultimately working towards" with "tools for".**

**Legislative mandates**

**Subprogramme 2**
**Coordination of humanitarian action and emergency response**

*General Assembly resolutions*

**Add the following resolutions:**

**58/114 Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations**

**60/124 Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations**

*Security Council resolutions*

**Add the following resolution:**

**1674 (2006) Protection of civilians in armed conflict**

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# Draft report

*Rapporteur*: Ms. Stefania **Rosini** (Italy)

**Addendum**

## Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011
***(Item 3 (b))***

### Programme 8
### Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

1. At its 18th meeting, on 23 June 2008, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/63/6 (Prog. 8)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

**Discussion**

3. Overall support was expressed for the programme and for the work of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.

4. Concern was expressed with respect to the realignment of the Office of the High Representative and the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, and its impact on the programme. The view was expressed that the realignment was not in line with General Assembly resolution 56/227, whereby the Assembly decided to establish the Office of the High Representative.

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5. Questions were raised with regard to the mobilization and coordination of international aid. The view was expressed that limited progress had been realized, particularly for the least developed countries. The view was also expressed that support to this group of countries should be placed as a priority within the international community. The suggestion was made that assistance should be provided to those countries in the area of industrial development.

6. Under subprogramme 1, the view was expressed that while the objective was important and ambitious, the indicators of achievement did not sufficiently reflect attainment of the objective. Clarification was sought whether indicator of achievement (a) (i) really contributed to improvement of the quality of life. The view was expressed that there was no corresponding strategy in relation to indicator of achievement (a) (ii). A question was raised on how to measure indicator of achievement (b), Progress of the least developed countries on the agreed goals.

7. Under subprogramme 3, it was indicated that the medium-term review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States was not clearly reflected in the subprogramme. A question was raised on the mobilization of international support described in the objective of the subprogramme.

**Conclusions and recommendations**

8. **The Committee recalled General Assembly resolution 56/227 and recommended that adequate focus and support be ensured for the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, for fulfilling its established mandate. In that context, the Committee regretted the decision to merge the Office of the High Representative and the Office of the Special Advisor on Africa without any mandate.**

9. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

**Overall orientation**

***Paragraph 8.2***

**In subparagraph (a) (iii), at the beginning of the subparagraph, insert the words "the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and its follow-up,".**

***Paragraph 8.5***

**In subparagraph (a), after the words "as well as", insert the words "the Barbados Programme of Action and".**

**Subprogramme 1**
**Least developed countries**

**Strategy**

*Paragraph 8.6*

**At the end of the paragraph, add a new subparagraph, to read:**

**"(g) Facilitating effective participation of the least developed countries in decision-making in various intergovernmental bodies, which will contribute towards the achievement of the goals and targets of the Brussels Programme of Action".**

**Subprogramme 3**
**Small island developing States**

*Objective of the Organization*

**After the words "support for", insert the words "the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and its follow-up,".**

*Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat*

**In expected accomplishment (a), after the words "implementation of", insert the words "the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and its follow-up,".**

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## Draft report

*Rapporteur*: Ms. Stefania **Rosini** (Italy)

**Addendum**

## Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011
***(Item 3 (b))***

### Programme 9
### United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

1. At its 18th meeting, on 23 June 2008, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 9, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/63/6 (Prog. 9)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

**Discussion**

3. Appreciation and support were expressed for the programme, including for its important coordination role.

4. The view was expressed that the overall orientation of the programme was ambitious and that emphasis should be placed on supporting Africa in its efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

5. Support was expressed for the role of subprogramme 3 in raising international awareness of the situation in Africa. The view was expressed that the issuance of the magazine *Africa Renewal* might not be sufficient in that regard, and that other

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means should also be used. In this context, views were expressed that strategic relations must be developed with academic institutions in Africa highlighting the potential catalytic role of this subprogramme in information exchanges on best practices as well as building networks and gender-targeted programmes.

6. The efforts of the United Nations were welcomed and support was expressed for all thematic clusters. The desire for the development of regional programmes with a view to creating markets for the exchange of goods and services within Africa was also expressed.

7. Views were expressed that some of the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement needed further improvement and refinement. Clarification was sought on the formulation of certain aspects of the strategies of the subprogrammes as well as on the measurability and specificity of some expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement.

**Conclusions and recommendations**

8. **The Committee recommended that the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa include the outcomes of future meetings dedicated to the development of Africa, such as the two high-level meetings on development to be held during the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, in the programme budget for the biennium 2010-2011.**

9. **The Committee further recommended that the General Assembly approve the narrative of programme 9, United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

**Subprogramme 1**
**Coordination of global advocacy of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development**

**Strategy**

***Paragraph 9.9***

**Replace the first sentence with the following: "The responsibility of this subprogramme is vested in the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, who will be proactive in working closely with Member States, the African Union, the NEPAD secretariat and the entire United Nations system (including the Bretton Woods institutions) in the performance of its functions.**

**Renumber paragraph 9.9 as 9.7 and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.**

***Indicators of achievement***

**Replace indicator (a) (i) with the following: "The number of recommendations in the reports of the Secretary-General incorporated into resolutions on African development adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Human Rights Council and other intergovernmental organs of the United Nations".**

**Subprogramme 3**
**Public information and awareness activities in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development**

**Objective of the Organization**

**Replace the words "critical economic and social situation" with the words "critical economic, social and environmental situation".**

*Indicators of achievement*

**Replace indicator (a) (ii) with the following: "Increased number of magazines published in a timely manner".**

**Redesignate indicator (c) as (c) (i).**

**Add a new indicator (c) (ii) to read:**

**"(ii) Number of United Nations information centres reported to have proactively performed public advocacy on the issue of African development as part of their work".**

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## Draft report

*Rapporteur*: Ms. Stefania **Rosini** (Italy)

**Addendum**

## Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate
***(Item 6)***

1. At its 19th meeting, on 2 July 2008, the Committee considered agenda item 6, entitled "Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination within the framework of its mandate".

**Conclusions and recommendations**

2. **The Committee reaffirmed its role as the main subsidiary organ of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly for planning, programming and coordination.**

3. **The Committee took note with appreciation of the progress made in the improvement of its working methods.**

4. **The Committee reiterated its decision to devote more time to informal consultations, and encouraged the presence of senior-level members of the Secretariat at such informal meetings with a view to greater emphasis on dialogue with, and clarifications by, the Secretariat. It also emphasized the value added of "informal informal" consultations as a tool to reach consensus.**

5. **The Committee reaffirmed the importance of improving working methods and decided to remain seized of the matter.**

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